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Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 STR-08 SAJ-01 AID-20 COME-00 EB-11

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L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-15 CIEP-02 /174 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USLO PEKING
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 192118

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ETRD, APER, BTRA, EFIN, CH
SUBJECT: VISIT TO PRC BY DELEGATION OF NATIONAL COUNCIL
FOR US-CHINA TRADE

1. NCUSCT INFORMED PRCLO SEPT. 24 THAT CONTRARY TO ORIGINAL LIST GIVEN PRCLO, DELEGATION WOULD NOT INCLUDE USG OFFICIAL. PRCLO OFFICER APPEARED SURPRISED AND PRESSED HARD FOR REASON.

2. NCUSCT WAS CONCERNED THAT CHINESE MIGHT INTERPRET DECISION AS INDICATION OF LESSENED USG INTEREST IN NCUSCT IN GENERAL AND IN UPCOMING TRIP IN PARTICULAR. WE THEREFORE AGREED THAT WE WOULD REASSURE PRCLO.

3. DEPTOFF HAD OPPORTUNITY TO DO SO IN CONVERSATION WITH HAN HSU AND COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR CHANG TSIEN-HUA WHILE AWAITING HUANG CHEN'S ARRIVAL AT AIRPORT. DEPTOFF SAID WE

WISHED TO MAKE SURE THERE WAS NO MISUNDERSTANDING. NCUSCT

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CONTINUES TO HAVE OUR FULL SUPPORT AND WE ARE CONFIDENT IT CAN PLAY IMPORTANT ROLE IN PROMOTING TRADE BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES. UNFORTUNATELY, USG INITIALLY DID NOT GIVE FULL CONSIDERATION TO PROPOSAL FOR INCLUSION USG OFFICIAL IN THE DELEGATION. WHEN WE DID, IT WAS DECIDED THAT NCUSCT COULD BETTER ESTABLISH ITS IDENTITY AS A PRIVATE ORGANIZATION, AND THUS BE BETTER ABLE TO PLAY ITS IMPORTANT ROLE, IF THE DELEGATION DID NOT INCLUDE A USG

OFFICIAL. DEPTOFF NOTED THAT NCUSCT HAD ASKED THAT USLO OFFICERS ASSIST DELEGATION AND PARTICIPATE IN ITS ACTIVITIES. WE VERY MUCH FAVOR THAT PROPOSAL, WHICH IN THIS PARTICULAR CASE IS DIFFERENT FROM HAVING WASHINGTON OFFICIAL AS MEMBER OF DELEGATION.

4. DEPTOFF ADDED THAT WE LOOK FORWARD TO TIME WHEN, APART FROM NCUSCT ACTIVITIES, US AND PRC OFFICIALS CONCERNED WITH TRADE AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS COULD VISIT EACH OTHER'S COUNTRY. AS PRCLO AWARE, WE BELIEVE CONCLUSION OF PRIVATE CLAIMS/BLOCKED ASSET SETTLEMENT WOULD FACILITATE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF OUR TRADE AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS. IF PRC HAS ANY SPECIAL PROBLEMS WITH THE PROPOSED SETTLEMENT, WE WOULD WELCOME HEARING CHINESE VIEWS.

5. DEPTOFF CONCLUDED BY REITERATING THAT MAIN PURPOSE OF OUR RAISING SUBJECT WAS TO ASSURE PRCLO THAT USG CONTINUES GIVE FULL SUPPORT TO NCUSCT.

6. PERHAPS PARTLY BECAUSE SHORTAGE OF TIME, PRCLO OFFICERS DID NOT REACT BEYOND SAYING THAT THEY UNDERSTAND POINT WE WERE MAKING REGARDING SUPPORT FOR NCUSCT.

7. NCUSCT REPRESENTATIVE LATER DISCUSSED MATTER WITH ANOTHER PRCLO OFFICER IN TERMS PARALLEL PARA 2. HIS IMPRESSION WAS THAT PRCLO OFFICER ACCEPTED THE EXPLANATION. RUSH

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